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Economist Testifies He, Two Detectives Monitored Calls

The Mayflower Hotel bugging trial heard testimony yesterday from a man formally employed by the CIA, who said that he and two private detectives monitored conversations held in an attorney's hotel suite.

The prosecution witness was Douglas Price Weaver, an economist. He testified that the monitoring equipment consisted of an FM receiver and a tape recorder located down the hall from the lawyer's suite.

A small FM broadcasting device was found on April 4, 1962, taped under a coffee table in the Mayflower Hotel suite of Malcom T. Dungan, a San Francisco attorney.

The two private detectives identified by Weaver were John J. Frank and Oliver W. Angelone. They are on trial, along with a third private detective, John W. Leon, accused of illegally bugging the suite.

They are charged before U.S. District Court Judge Edward A. Tamm with three misdemeanor violations of the Federal Communications Act.

In connection with the operation of the bug.

Weaver said he registered for a room under the name of D. P. Baxter and later met Frank, Angelone and former Police Inspector Joseph W. Shimon in the room on March 31.

Weaver testified that he operated the receiving equipment along with Frank and Angelone.

Under examination by Assistant U.S. Attorney Harold J. Sullivan, Weaver said he saw Leon only once when he had come to repair the receiving devices. Weaver told defense attorney Edward Carey that he never saw any of the three defendants enter Dungan's room.

Dungan took the stand and explained that his suite was used for business meetings in connection with an application to the Federal Power Commission by El Paso Natural Gas Co. to obtain a pipeline franchise into southern California.

Dungan said a competitor, Tennessee Gas Transmission Co. was applying for a similar franchise.